

St John's Childcare Forest Glade

Forest Glade, Langdon Hills, Basildon, Essex SS16 6RX



Inspection date	22 July 2019
Previous inspection date	22 February 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The provider does not have a sufficient understanding of his legal role and responsibility to ensure children's safety, well-being, learning and development.
- The provider has failed to notify Ofsted of the appointment of new managers.
- The staff are unclear of who they report safeguarding concerns to in the event that the designated person does not report these.
- The managers have not identified weaknesses in safeguarding practice. They do not adequately check how well the staff understand and implement the setting's policies and local safeguarding procedures.
- At times, noise levels in rooms make it difficult for children and staff to communicate during smaller or adult-led activities.
- Children are not always able to extend and make independent choices about what they want to play with.

It has the following strengths

- Staff successfully teach children the skills they need for school. Children develop good language, numeracy and literacy skills. Staff use skilful ways to challenge children's thinking and help them to solve practical problems.
- Staff are kind and caring with the children. The effective key-person system has enabled the formation of strong bonds. This enables children to feel safe. They are confident and interested learners who are busy explorers throughout the nursery.
- Staff work closely with parents, who are very complimentary about the setting and staff team. Staff invite parents into the setting to discuss their children's progress and parents' positive contributions to children's assessments support learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
increase knowledge of safeguarding to ensure familiarity with issues of child protection and procedures to safeguard children from abuse or neglect	01/09/2019
ensure all staff have an up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues and understand the safeguarding policy and procedures to safeguard children from abuse or neglect.	01/09/2019

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- ensure children are fully supported in sustaining their concentration during activities
- extend opportunities for children to select toys to promote their self-help skills and encourage independent exploration and play.

Inspection activities

- The inspectors observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The lead inspector completed a joint observation with the setting's deputy manager.
- The inspectors held a meeting with the setting's managers and provider. They looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of staff working in the nursery.
- The lead inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspectors

Tina Mason
Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. The nominated person who holds legal responsibility for the setting does not have a clear understanding of his role. As a result, Ofsted has not been informed of a change of manager. The managers and the staff team attend regular safeguarding training and often discuss safeguarding issues. Staff recognise and respond appropriately to protect children's safety and welfare. However, staff were not aware of the procedures to follow if they felt safeguarding concerns had not been dealt with appropriately by the provider or designated safeguarding officer. Despite this, some aspects of leadership and management are effective. Robust recruitment and well-targeted training ensure staff are well qualified and knowledgeable about the learning and development requirements. The managers and staff team promote children's purposeful learning, good health and safety.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly observe children and assess their achievements. They make use of this information to plan activities that help children acquire new skills. Managers and staff monitor the progress children make effectively. This means that any gaps in learning can be identified and acted upon. Staff skilfully help children to communicate effectively. Children use expressive language and a wide vocabulary to recall events, talk about what they are doing and respond to questions. Younger children use their senses to explore the way ice feels. Staff develop children's language skills. For example, they use language such as 'cold' and 'smooth'. Older children are encouraged to develop their mathematical skills. For instance, staff encourage them to match colour, shape and quantity.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's welfare is not assured. Staff do not consistently address the high noise level in the children's group rooms. As a result, it becomes difficult for them to hear each other speak. The staff do not consistently encourage children to become more independent, particularly in choosing activities for themselves in order to help them extend their play and learning. Despite this, staff support children's emotional well-being as they move between rooms in the setting and on to other settings, such as school. Babies receive lots of cuddles, helping them to feel happy and settled. Children's health and physical development are promoted effectively. The outside area is inviting, and children delight in sensory activities as they investigate and explore. They enjoy healthy snacks and well-balanced nutritious meals that are freshly prepared by the on-site cook.

Outcomes for children are good

All children, including those with special educational needs, make good progress from their starting points. They confidently communicate their needs and ideas. All children are keen and enthusiastic learners. They develop good communication skills and listen carefully to stories. Children show an interest in letters and words and learn to recognise their names, for instance, when they take part in self-registration. Children's experiences prepare them well for their next stage in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	650005
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10072994
Type of provision	Childcare on non-domestic premises
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Full day care
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	110
Number of children on roll	195
Name of registered person	Chelmsford Diocesan Board Of Finance
Registered person unique reference number	RP520376
Date of previous inspection	22 February 2016
Telephone number	01268 490400

St John's Childcare Forest Glade registered in 1999. The setting employs 44 members of childcare staff. Of these, 36 hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 or above. The setting opens from Monday to Friday for 47 weeks of the year. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm. The setting provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance *Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted*, which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

